

# **IDEM**

## **Nonrule Policy Document**

Indiana Department of Environmental Management  
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**Title:** USED OIL FILTERS

**Identification Number:** WASTE-0023-NPD

**Date Originally Adopted:** October 14, 1997

**Dates Revised:** None

**Other Policies Repealed or Amended:** None

**Citations Affected:** 40 CFR 261.2 & 4

**Brief Description of Subject Matter:** Prior to May 1992, used oil filters were subject to hazardous waste characterization (chemical analysis), unless they were recycled as a scrap metal. Scrap metal is exempt from hazardous waste identification and management requirements (see 40 CFR, Part 261.2). Effective June 5, 1995, Indiana adopted the Used Oil Filter Management Standards which were promulgated by the U.S. EPA in May 1992. The Rule, incorporating 40 CFR 261.4 by reference, excludes “non-terne plated” used oil filters from classification as a hazardous waste if they are properly drained. The exclusion is based on information provided to the EPA documenting that properly drained filters (which have not been mixed with other wastes are hazardous) are not hazardous.

This nonrule policy document is intended solely as guidance and does not have the effect of law or represent formal Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) decisions or final actions. This nonrule policy document shall be used in conjunction with applicable laws. It does not replace applicable laws, and if it conflicts with these laws, the laws shall control. A revision to this nonrule policy document may be put into effect by IDEM once the revised nonrule policy document is made available for public inspection and copying. IDEM will submit revisions to the Indiana Register for publication.

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## **USED OIL FILTERS**

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1. Hot-draining the filters and crushing.
2. Puncturing the filter anti-drain back valve or the filter dome end and hot-draining for twelve (12) hours.

3. Dismantling and hot-draining for twelve (12) hours.
4. Any other equivalent hot-draining method which will remove the used oil.

“Terne plated” oil filters were determined to be potentially hazardous because of the higher leachable lead concentrations resulting from the lead alloy used in the filters. Therefore, those filters would need to be tested for hazardous properties unless they are recycled as scrap metal. It is recommended that companies avoid using terne plated filters, whenever feasible. Filter suppliers should be able to advise as to which of their filters are terne plated.

Because of the difficulty of assuring that all filters are “properly drained”, crushing or dismantling of the filters is strongly recommend. Any immediate flow of oil from a filter that has been drained would demonstrate that the filter had not been “properly drained”, and would subject it to the testing requirements of the Hazardous Waste Rules.

Indiana continues to promote recycling rather than disposal. Although properly drained used oil filters can be disposed of in solid waste landfills, companies are encouraged to have properly drained used oil filters recycled as scrap metal whenever possible.

**If you need additional information, or have any questions or concerns, please contact staff of the Compliance Branch, Office of Land Quality, at 317-308-3103. The IDEM toll-free telephone number is 1-800-451-6027.**